



# **LINCOLN CHAFEE**

## **U.S. SENATOR**

### **RHODE ISLAND**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **CHAFEE ANNOUNCES GRANT FOR MENTAL HEALTH RESEARCH**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee announced today that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has notified him that Butler Hospital will receive a \$292,339 grant from the National Institute of Mental Health. The money will be used to further research of whether exposure to stress at a young age can affect a person's mental health as an adult.

"The work done by the doctors at Butler Hospital is truly remarkable," Senator Chafee said. "I am pleased that this money is being made available to research the causes and attempt to find the solutions of mental health problems that many adults face." he continued.

The study applies findings generated in animal studies to human subjects. Tests will be conducted on healthy adult subjects to determine the relationship between adverse early life experiences and how the body responds to stress in adulthood. Subjects will be evaluated based on their biological responses to various stress tests to determine this relationship. If a relationship can be established, and a determination that exposure to childhood adversity does play a role in the mental health of adults, preventative steps may be able to be taken to reduce the onset of depression, anxiety, or other stress-related problems before they become critical health issues.

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